# SHANNON NAVIGATION, &c.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 17 December 1847;—*for*,

RETURNS "from the AUDIT BOARD, showing the Date up to which the ACCOUNTS of the Sums received and expended by the SHANNON NAVIGATION COMMISSIONERS, under the Act 2 & 3 Vict. c. 61, for Works, and Rents, and Tolls, have been Examined and Audited; also, of such of the said Accounts as have been Examined, but not yet Audited:"

"Showing the ARREARS, if any, of the Delivery of the said ACCOUNTS, up to the present time, for Examination by the Audit Board; and what Proceedings have been taken by the Audit Board, with the Dates thereof, with reference to the Act 46 Geo. 3, c. 141, and the Act 2 & 3 Will. 4, c. 104, requiring the Delivery of the said Accounts:"

"And, showing the Date up to which the COMMISSIONERS of the BOARD of WORKS have rendered Accounts of the EXPENDITURE, under the Acts 1 Vict. c. 21; 9 Vict. c. 1; and 9 & 10 Vict. c. 107, to the Commissioners for Auditing the Public Accounts, or to any Commissioners specially appointed by the Treasury for the Examination thereof."

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THE Accounts of the Sums received and expended by the Shannon Navigation Commissioners, under the Act 2 & 3 Vict. c. 61, for Works, and Rents, and Tolls, from 17 August 1839 (the date of the passing of the Act) up to the present time have not been rendered to this Office.

The Proceedings taken by the Audit Board requiring the delivery of the said Accounts, will be seen from the following Letters.

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(No. 1481.)

Gentlemen, Audit Office, 9 December 1845.

THE Commissioners for Auditing the Public Accounts have had under their consideration a copy of a letter addressed by you to Mr. Trevelyan, dated 28 June 1844, which was forwarded to this Office in a Treasury Letter, dated 3 August 1844, wherein you refer to the transmission to this Office of your Accounts of the Expenses of your Office Establishment as Commissioners for the Improvement of the River Shannon, to the 31st March 1845, and state, "with reference to the other Accounts" (viz. Works, and Rents, and Tolls), "that you will take immediate steps for complying with their Lordships' directions."

I am directed to observe, that no other Accounts than those for the service above mentioned to 31 March 1845, and for valuation and law expenses to 31 December 1841, have been received at this Office, and I am therefore directed to refer you to the directions contained in the accompanying extract from a Treasury Minute of the 21st June 1844, and to desire that an Account in respect of the services therein described, made up from August 1839 to 31st December 1844, may be transmitted to this Office with as little delay as possible, accompanied by the necessary vouchers and authorities in support thereof, and that your subsequent Accounts may be forwarded here as soon after the close of each year as can conveniently be done.

I am, &c.
(signed) *John Lewis Mallet*,
Secretary.

Major-general Sir J. F. Burgoyne, K.C.B.
Harry D. Jones, Esq.

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Sir,



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Shannon Commission Office, Custom-House,
Sir, Dublin, 17 December 1845.

I AM directed by the Commissioners to forward to you the following accounts of their Receipts and Disbursements; viz. for,

1. Law and Valuation, final account.
2. Fitting up Offices in Custom-House.
3. Boundary Survey.
4. Maintenance of Upper Shannon Navigation, and Buoys and Beacons on Lough Derg, to 31st December 1841, together with the necessary vouchers and other documents in support of same.

And I am to request you will have the goodness to obtain from your Board, the requisite authority for having the Accounts audited in the usual manner.

I am also to add, in reference to your communication of the 9th instant, that other accounts are in course of preparation, and will be submitted to the Commissioners of Audit as soon as their detailed nature and the pressure of business attendant on the making up the Parliamentary and Grand Jury Accounts at this period of the year will admit.

The Accounts and Vouchers referred to in the former part of this letter go forward by this day's post, in three distinct parcels, the receipt of which I am to request you will have the goodness to acknowledge.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. Hornsby*,
Secretary.

J. L. Mallet, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

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(No. 998.)
Sir, Audit Office, 9 July 1846.

I AM directed by the Commissioners for Auditing the Public Accounts to refer you to your letter of the 17th December 1845, forwarding several Accounts of the Receipt and Expenditure of the Shannon Commissioners, and stating "that other Accounts are in course of preparation, and will be submitted to this Board."

As no subsequent Accounts have been received, I am to request that you will call the particular attention of the Shannon Commissioners to the delay, and to request that the Accounts of the several services under their control, made up to the 31st March 1846, may be transmitted to this office with all practicable despatch, accompanied by the vouchers in support thereof; and that their future Accounts may be made up and forwarded to this office so soon after the close of each year as can conveniently be done.

I am, &c.
(signed) *John Lewis Mallet*,
Secretary.

E. Hornsby, Esq.

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Shannon Commission Office, Custom-House,
Sir, Dublin, 22 July 1846.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, and beg to forward herewith an Account of the Receipts and Disbursements for the Office Establishment of this Commission, during the year ending 31st March 1846.

I am further directed to mention, for the information of the Commissioners for Auditing the Public Accounts, that the statement of the Commissioners' Receipts and Disbursements under their "Rents and Tolls" Account, is in a forward condition, and would by this time have been completed, but that, owing to the extreme pressure of business this season upon the Department of Public Works in Ireland, that Board was obliged to avail itself of the services of the experienced hands employed under this Commission.

So

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So soon as the urgency of the demand for the service of those gentlemen under the Board of Works shall admit of it, they will resume the preparation of the Accounts, which shall then be forwarded with all practicable despatch.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. Hornsby*,
Secretary.

John Lewis Mallet, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

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(No. 740.)

Sir,

Audit Office, 21 April 1847.

With reference to the latter part of your letter, dated 22d July 1846, in which you state the cause of the delay in rendering the Accounts of the Commissioners for the Improvement of the Navigation of the River Shannon up to the 31st March 1846:

I am directed by the Commissioners for Auditing the Public Accounts to draw your attention to the large amount, upwards of 130,000 *l.*, issued to the Shannon Commissioners now remaining unaccounted for; the Commissioners of Audit wish to press upon the consideration of the Shannon Commissioners the desirableness of their Accounts being rendered as speedily as possible, and therefore request that the Accounts of the several services under their control may be made up with all practicable despatch and forwarded to this office, accompanied by the vouchers in support thereof.

I am, &c.

(signed) *John Lewis Mallet*,
Secretary.

E. Hornsby, Esq.

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Shannon Navigation.

Office of Public Works, Custom-House,
Dublin, 24 April 1847.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 21st instant, expressing the desire of the Commissioners of Audit that the outstanding Accounts connected with the Shannon Navigation should be rendered as speedily as possible; and in reply, beg to state, that the causes which were in operation at the period of my letter to you of the 22d July 1846 for delaying the completion of the accounts then in hands, have not since admitted of their being resumed.

The extreme pressure of business on this Board, occasioned by the Relief service, which originally made it necessary to withdraw the gentlemen conversant with the Shannon Accounts from their preparation for your Board, has not yet relaxed so as to admit of their again taking them in hand; however, as stated in the letter I have referred to, the Accounts were in a forward state when obliged to be laid aside, and every effort shall be made to hasten the completion, in order that they may be transmitted to your Board, accompanied by the vouchers in support thereof, as soon as any diminution of the pressure of the Relief business will permit attention to be devoted to them.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. Hornsby*.

John Lewis Mallet, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

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With respect to the Expenditure incurred by the Commissioners of the Board of Works in Ireland, under the 1st Vict. c. 21; 9 Vict. c. 1; and 9 & 10 Vict. c. 107, no Accounts have been rendered to this Office.

W. L. HERRIES.
HENRY ARBUTHNOT.
EDW. ROMILLY.

Audit Office,
14 January 1848.

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A SEPARATE Return to the last part of this Order of the Honourable House of Commons has been prepared by the Commissioners specially appointed by the Treasury for the examination of the Accounts of the Expenditure, under the Acts 1 Vict. c. 21; 9 Vict. c. 1; and 9 & 10 Vict. c. 107, and is annexed hereto.

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ALL the Vouchers for the Expenditure under the Acts 1 Vict. c. 21; 9 Vict. c. 1; and 9 & 10 Vict. c. 107, have been rendered by the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland to us, the Commissioners appointed by the Lords of the Treasury for the special Audit thereof, to 31st December last, and the larger proportion of the same has been audited.

A sketch of the General Account for such Expenditure to 31st December 1847 has been also delivered to us, but there being claims under these Accounts still unsettled, the balances are not yet fully adjusted, and a complete and final Account to 31st December is therefore still to be rendered.

The Accounts and Vouchers of the Expenditure incurred after 31st December last, under these Acts, will form part of the new Account of the Office of Works, commencing 1 January 1848, and will therefore be rendered for Audit, with the ordinary Accounts of that Office, to the Commissioners of Audit, Somerset-place, London.

*R. C. Kirby,* } Commissioners of
*R. M. Bromley,* } Special Audit.

Dublin, 7 February 1848.

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SHANNON NAVIGATION, &c.

RETURNS respecting the Accounts of the SHANNON NAVIGATION COMMISSIONERS and the BOARD of WORKS in *Ireland.*

(*Dr. Bowring.*)

*Ordered, by* The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
5 *May* 1848.

30*.

*Under* 1 *oz.*

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